Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: That is in terms of area and not in terms of people?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Pople also.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know whether there is an order of Government regarding rations to soldiers who are on leave allowing them 1½ times the usual ration.

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: I do not think there is any such order. You mean their families?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: It is for the soldier himself.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED FROM EACH PANCHAYAT AREA—FUNCTIONING OF

102. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi)*: Will Government be pleased to state if the Committee appointed by the Government in its Proceedings dated 18th October 1942, P. 13-28800/17, from each Panchayat area in the State to assist and advise the official staff of the Fair Price Shop Scheme in the State is functioning?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: The Committees appointed in Government Proceedings P. 13-28800/17, dated 28th October 1942 are functioning.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I take it that the date "28th" in the answer is a misstatement for the "18th".

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: "28th" is the correct date.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know whether members of these Ration Committees can be appointed as Fair Price shop licensees?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: There is no fixed rule as regards that. It so happens in very rare cases one or two members do happen to run licensed shops.

REASONS FOR PROHIBITING THE EXPORT OF BANANAS AND YAM

103. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the reasons for passing a notification prohibiting the export of bananas and yam from the State;

(*b*) has the Government considered that the producers of bananas would be hard hit by this notification;

(*c*) has the Director of Food Supplies ever visited Meloor and Pariyaram the centre of banana cultivation and consulted the producers before passing this Notification?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*:

(*a*) In order to conserve the available produce in the State for the consumption of the people here.

(*b*) Government considered the matter. It was thought necessary to impose the ban in the interests of the general public.

(*c*) No.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: May I know whether the Government are aware that considerable want of bananas coming from Chenganasseri District to Ernakulam and Mattancheri is felt?

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: As a result of this notification, the Travancore Government have taken reciprocal action and they stopped the sending of bananas.

Mr. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: That is not as a result of our notification. It is because they wanted to conserve bananas for their use.

ROAD TO TRICHUR AND MALAYATTUR FROM ERNAKULAM—CONDITION OF

104. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Will Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the extreme difficulties for travelling by road felt by persons who go to Trichur and Malayattur from Ernakulam?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: The roads are in a fairly good condition.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Are the Government aware that for going from Ernakulam to Trichur and Malayattur we have to pass through Travancore roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: The Travancore roads are now in good condition.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Have the Government made any report to the Travancore Government so that they may be pleased to repair those roads?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: This Government had requested the Travancore Government to repair those roads, and in response to that request, the Travancore Government have repaired those roads.

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